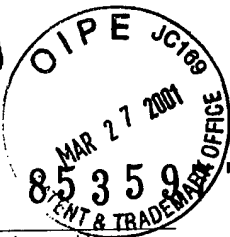


EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE



#15
B. Webb
4-3-01

Date 3/27/01 Label No. EL

PLEASE CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY UP TO \$300.00 OR CREDIT ANY EXCESS IN THE FEES DUE WITH THIS DOCUMENT TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 04-0100

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or fee was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service & that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

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Name (Print) Signature

Customer No.:



07278

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 2094/1E285 US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kevin M. GORMAN, David R. PATTERSON, Jeffrey M. LINNEN and Keming SONG

Serial No.: 09/494,332

Art Unit: 1655

Filed: January 28, 2000

Examiner: J. GOLDBERG

For: OLIGONUCLEOTIDE PRIMERS FOR EFFICIENT MULTIPLEX DETECTION OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) AND HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98 of the Rules of Practice, Applicants submit herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement for the above-captioned patent application, including Form PTO-1449 listing references for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each reference cited in the accompanying Form PTO-1449 is also submitted herewith.

03/29/2001 JADD01 00000035 09494332

02 FC:126

180.00 OP

It is believed that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted before the mailing date of any final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance or any other action that closes prosecution in this application. Pursuant therefore to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and § 1.17(p), a fee of \$180.00 is believed to be due. A check in the amount of \$180.00 is submitted herewith for the estimated required fee. Should the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determine that an additional fee is required for this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

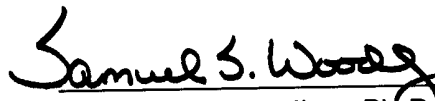
The present Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted to assure compliance with the disclosure requirements set forth in 37 CFR 1.56. However, the citation of such document is not to be construed as an

admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search. It is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b). Applicants further anticipate that the Examiner will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration of the reference cited in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 27, 2001


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